

LOCAL NEWS.

CITY COUNCIL.—An adjourned meeting of the City Council was to have been held last night for the purpose of considering the report of the committee appointed to revise and amend the charter of the corporation.

In the Board of Aldermen, on motion of Mr. Suttle, the clerk read the new city charter by sections.

On the 1st Sec. defining the boundaries of the city limits, it was explained by Mr. Simpson that the line embracing a part of Fairfax county in the corporate limits had never been agreed to by that county. The line was now as it had been for years, he believed it had been extended for sanitary purposes a short distance beyond 1100th St.

Mr. Agnew inquired if the city could have jurisdiction over the Potomac.

Mr. Suttle answered that the Legislature had concurrent jurisdiction over the Potomac with Maryland, and that the power could be delegated to this city.

The section was after some further debate adopted, and the 2nd section being read was adopted also, as were the 3rd and 4th without discussion.

On the election section Mr. French suggested whether it would not be better to elect the City Council by a general ticket. In this way a better class of citizens could be elected than if local ward interests were allowed to sway those matters, and the entire sense of the community would be better obtained.

Mr. Agnew thought politically he would be in favor of this as in the interests of his party, but as for the good of the city he was not so sure.

The paragraph of the 5th section requiring the Mayor to sign a bill passed over his veto by the Council, was amended.

Mr. Suttle said that as it stood if the Mayor should refuse to sign a bill it would render it null and void.

On the subject of vacancies occurring in either branch the phrase "shall have power to fill the vacancy" gave rise to quite an animated discussion, resulting in an amendment being offered striking out the words "have power."

Mr. Simpson said he thought this power belonged to the people, and he was opposed to taking away any of their rights. If there was a vacancy let the Council order an election, but let the people say whom they would send.

Mr. Suttle said that after mature consideration the committee had thought this best. The time taken from the people, and the cost of an election, besides the excitement and sometimes danger of an election were subjects which induced him to think the best plan to fill vacancies was by the Board in which the vacancy occurred. He could trust his interests as confidently to twenty intelligent gentlemen here as he could to the entire mass of the city.

Mr. Simpson replied defending his position. Mr. Harmon—"The people will say that we are taking all the power out of their hands. What right had a member from the 1st Ward to say who should represent the 4th?"

The vote being put, the Chair decided the amendment lost.

Mr. Suttle reiterated that the cost of elections was a reason why the section should remain as it was.

Mr. Harmon said that a vacancy had occurred in the 4th Ward and one election had been held. This did not cost the city one cent. But the member elected was not presenting himself here, told that he was not legally elected and could not take his seat. He was not here himself at the time, but gave it as a newspaper report.

Mr. Agnew—Then if this election was a valid one, his being kept out of his seat is an illegal act, and the acts of this Board in his absence are illegal.

Mr. Harmon—There has been no legal action taken by the Council in the matter of his being refused his seat. As the matter was up he would give his opinion about it.

Mr. Markell—But it is right as it is. No election had been ordered by this Board.

Mr. Harmon—There was certainly a vacancy from the 4th Ward, and the people had elected a member who had been denied his seat.

Mr. French said he was doubtful the person referred to as having told the party who claimed to represent the 4th Ward that he was not legally entitled to a seat here. So far as this matter was concerned it was the fault of the gentleman over there if the 4th Ward is not represented, for you claim that Mr. Bell was not deprived of his seat here by being a corporation officer.

Mr. Harmon—The Council had declared a vacancy.

Mr. Suttle asked what was before the Board.

Mr. Harmon explained his position, repeating his views.

Mr. French—"Don't you see that it is because you have not declared a vacancy. You have insisted that Mr. Bell was entitled to his seat."

The reading of the charter was resumed.

Mr. French thought the term of service of the Auditor should be extended to at least three years, and if it could be so arranged that he could not be subject to removal for political reasons it would be well. It was a loss to the city, the frequent change in this office. It took an Auditor at least a year to become qualified for the position.

Mr. Agnew thought that it would be difficult to make an office so unchangeable. A new political party coming would find a protest, if one was wanted, to remove any one.

Mr. Suttle wanted power in the hands of the Council to destroy as well as to build up. He thought that the power to dismiss from office should be vested in the Council.

Some discussion as to the verbiage of the 5th section occurred after which it was adopted. The idea advanced was that the phrase "removed from office at its pleasure," should be qualified, as placing too much power in the hands of Council.

Mr. Simpson said it should be thought that inefficiency, neglect of duty, &c., should be inserted.

The discussion was continued by Messrs. Suttle and Agnew, after which several sections were read and adopted without comment, save some slight verbal amendments.

Mr. French said that if the city could organize a chain gang it would be a wholesome terror to criminals, and would be a ready means of utilizing the vagrant labor now imprisoned. Mr. Simpson opposed this as being repugnant to his ideas of right. The city has no right to disgrace a criminal by putting him in a chain gang.

Mr. Agnew coincided with Mr. S. in his views.

In the 23d section the phrase giving power to the Mayor to dismiss from office a deputy collector of taxes, was struck out, the opinion prevailing that it conferred a power on the Mayor that he should not possess.

what he had said before about the propriety of electing the Auditor for the term of 3 years, as was the State Treasurer, and he would repeat also that now that this charter was printed and in the hands of printers he would like to take it home with him and work at it calmly and quietly, to see if it could not be improved.

Mr. Suttle did not think anything could be gained by delay; nor did he think that the treasurer would be as diligent as a special collector.

Mr. Markell inquired why the gas bills were put in the hands of the collector of taxes.

Mr. Suttle explained that they were a part of the city revenue, and about the only paying stock it possessed. If they were placed on the same footing as taxes, and the collector had power to detain for them, many gas bills now uncollected would be obtained. This was the plan pursued in Baltimore.

Mr. French repeated his views that the city Treasurer was by the Constitution made collector of taxes.

Mr. Simpson thought the Treasurer had enough to do without that duty. There should be two collectors, as now.

Mr. Suttle said the Council had no power to create the office of another collector. The Sheriff had returned last year only about \$1,500 delinquent tax, and the late collector of the Northern District had returned over \$20,000. This was because he had no power to enforce collections.

Mr. Agnew thought there was a chance of getting a better man by having only one collector.

Mr. Suttle thought that he had understood some days ago from Mr. French that he (Mr. F.) had thoroughly digested this matter, and why he wanted to postpone it he was at a loss to see.

Mr. French explained that now that the charter was printed it was easily examined. Does it do any harm to take this up calmly and deliberately and work at it quietly?

Mr. Suttle rejoined that Mr. French was ready a few days ago, and now he pleads, insists and urges delay, without a definite reason. There was a "cat in this meat ball," he thought.

Mr. French replied that the act as passed could not have validity until adopted by the lower Board. Our haste was useless until they had acted on it.

Mr. Simpson moved a reconsideration of the vote.

Mr. Suttle—Did you vote for it?

Messrs. Simpson and Markell stated that they were in consultation at the time of the vote being taken and did not hear it. The vote to reconsider was not put by the chair.

The discussion was continued until a late hour, but succeeding sections were adopted without modification or change, after which the Board adjourned.

Common Council.—Messrs. Smoot, Shinn, Wheat, Porter, Massey, Dyson and Parker were present in the chamber at intervals during the evening, but as no quorum was present, no meeting was held.

CORONER'S INQUESTS.—The inquest upon the body of the colored woman Betsy Campbell, who was run over and killed by the cars on Tuesday evening last, at the intersection of Henry and Princess streets, which commenced by coroner Beach on Wednesday, was not concluded until half past eleven o'clock Friday night. [We have not room, to day, for the evidence as given in the case.]

The jury of which Mr. B. Harlow was foreman returned the following verdict: "That the deceased came to her death by the railroad cars on Henry street, while imprudently attempting to cross the track when the cars were too near for that purpose."

The inquest upon the body of the female mulatto child by coroner Beach on Friday evening resulted in the following verdict rendered by the jury of which R. B. Lee Fleming was foreman: "The jury believe from the oath of Dr. Powell that the child was born alive, and that it came to its death by drowning at the hands of some unknown person, in a pond near the baptizing ground. The child was about twenty-four hours old. That it had breathed after birth was proved by the floating of a piece of its lungs in water."

PRODUCE RECEIPTS.—Among the country produce brought to this city last week by the O. & M. R. R. were: of corn 8,504 bushels, wheat 12,227, rye 206, oats 3,151, meal 100, onions 35, potatoes 60, dried fruit 30, seed 15, barley 88, apples 63 bbls., dressed poultry 69 bbls., bacon 3,025 lbs., tobacco 10 boxes, butter 142 bbls., ground sumac 288 bags, sumac 310 sacks, eggs 62 bbls., dressed hogs 141, hides 47 bundles, flour 1,139 bbls., cows and calves 19, and 15 car loads of cattle and hogs.

During the same period there were received by the W. & O. R. R., among other freight: of wheat 3,810 bushels, corn 2,174, oats 1,076, feed 66, flour 97 bbls., butter 8 bbls., eggs 14 bbls., poultry 19 bbls., cider 5 bbls., pork 7,152 lbs., 5 calves, 2 cows of fowls, and one car load of stock.

OVERBOARD.—Capt. Smith, of the Maryland steamer Virginia, and a deck hand named Hughes, accidentally fell overboard yesterday evening, at the ferry slip, but were speedily rescued by persons standing in the vicinity.

A little boy, while playing with some companions, fell from a boat into the Prince street dock, yesterday evening, and would have drowned had he not been rescued by Mr. Harry Price, who happened to hear the splash made by the accident, and hastening to the spot pulled the child out by his hair.

PERSONAL.—The Fredericksburg Star says: "We were delighted to behold yesterday the smiling countenance of our friend Jno. T. Cox, who arrived Thursday night with his beautiful bride. Mr. Cox is the popular News agent at 111, King street, Alexandria."

COMMON COUNCIL.—A called meeting of the Common Council will be held to night for the purpose of considering the proposed new charter for the Corporation.

THE WEATHER.—Notwithstanding the snow and cold of yesterday, the weather this morning was very mild.

SNOWSTORM DAY.—To-morrow will be the shortest day of the year.

POLICE REPORT.—Affairs at police headquarters were as quiet as usual this morning.

MAYOR'S OFFICE.—George Brooks, for disorderly conduct, was committed to the work house for 60 days. He responded to the zoning of the alternative, a flogging, by telling the officer who made it to prepare his will first, the officer who made it to prepare his will first, the officer who made it to prepare his will first.

William Thornton, for disorderly conduct and for threatening John Hampton, both colored, was whipped 1 and discharged.

Edward Douglas, on complaint of Edna Ausbury, both colored, for disorderly conduct and brawling, was fined and discharged.

MAGISTRATES' OFFICE.—A peace warrant was issued against Patrick Guthrie at the instance of Gabriel Shepherd.

NIGHT REPORT.—Night dark and rainy until about 3 o'clock this morning, when it cleared away, but became cloudy again and remained so until after sunrise. There were no disturbances. Two lodgers were accommodated at the station house.

MASONIC.—Some distinguished Masons from Washington, among them Col. Albert Pike, paid a visit to Andrew Jackson Lodge, No. 120, of this city, last night, and witnessed Virginia work in the administration of the third degree. Col. Pike delivered a beautiful address upon the occasion.

Rev. Mr. Haynes will deliver a Masonic lecture in the Methodist Episcopal Church next Sunday.

POTATOES.—Major H. C. Williams exhibited here yesterday some potatoes raised on his farm near Vienna station, Fairfax county, which unquestionably were the largest and finest ever before seen in this locality; some specimens weighed as much as one pound and fourteen ounces. The fertilizer used by the Major on his crop cost two and a half cents to the bushel of the yield.

RELEASED.—Edward Meades and William Phillips, alias Sonny Colton, the last of the parties committed to jail for an assault upon the jury in the Jarvis Morrow case, were released from confinement yesterday, by order of Judge Keith.

PICKPOCKETS.—A gentleman from this city while riding in one of the street cars in Washington, yesterday, had his heavy gold watch chain cut, but his vest fitted him so tightly that the pickpocket could not abstract his watch.

ST. JOHN'S BATTALION.—The battalion of students of St. John's Academy, armed with their new guns, paraded this evening and presented a very soldier-like and handsome appearance.

QUALIFIED.—G. H. Ramey, the Commonwealth's Attorney elect for Alexandria county, qualified before his honor Judge Cokerille, yesterday, by taking the oaths of office as required by law.

TROPICAL FRUIT.—Among other freight landed here yesterday by the steamer Lady of the Lake was a large consignment of Havana oranges from Cuba, via Norfolk, to commission merchants of this city.

MAN TRAP.—The condition of the pavement at the southeast corner of King and Henry streets, is represented as a probable cause for a suit for damages against the city.

ALEXANDRIA CHRISTIAN ASSOCIATION.—The regular monthly meeting of this society will be held in their room, to night, at half-past seven o'clock.

TELEGRAPH NEWS.

[SPECIAL DISPATCHES TO THE GAZETTE.]

FROM WASHINGTON.

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between Bryan Campbell and Dave Lewis. Ninety-nine rounds were fought in one hour and thirty minutes, when Campbell was declared the winner by a foul blow. Two thousand persons were present. The fight was one of the most ferocious on the record of the prize ring.

Fire.—SAN FRANCISCO, Dec. 20.—The Eagle Smelting Works, at Hamilton, Nevada, were accidentally burned yesterday. Loss \$10,000, no insurance.

The Markets.—BALTIMORE, Dec. 20.—Wheat, 60 bid 50 1/2 asked; do. 1860, 60 bid 61 asked; do. 1867, 56 bid 56 1/2 asked. Cotton strong. Flour steady, and fairly active. Wheat; choice in demand at full prices; common is not wanted, choice white 170a185; fair to prime 140a160; prime to choice red 165a180; fair to good 135a160; common 120a130; Ohio and Indiana 137a140. Corn firm; and active, white 73a74; yellow 72. Oats quiet at 50a52.

NEW YORK, Dec. 20.—Stocks quiet. Gold 104 1/2. Money easy at 7 in currency to 7 in gold. Virginia sixes ex coupon 64 1/2, do. new 63. Flour dull and drooping. Wheat dull and heavy. Corn quiet.

CORPORATION COURT.—Judge E. M. Love presiding.—James Boswell, sentenced to the penitentiary for 11 years, in accordance with verdict of jury, and execution of sentence stayed for 30 days from January 1st, 1871, and clerk ordered to prepare, free of cost, a copy record of proceedings in this case, to be presented to the Supreme Court of Appeals of Virginia.

P. G. Henderson, J. W. Holsbury and Jno. R. Alexander were appointed appraisers of the estate of Philip Weinburg under the Home stead law.

John Hurley's adm'r. vs. O. A. & M. R. R. in chancery. Leave was granted the defendant to file answer at next January term and continued.

Anne B. Fornace et al. vs. Wm. H. McKnight et al. in chancery. Decree referring papers in this cause to one of the Commissioners of Chancery in this Court.

M. B. Harlow vs. David Waters; suggestion vs. Alexandria & Wash. R. R. Co.; suggestion granted.

SPECIAL NOTICES.

TO SICKLY PERSONS.—To persons who are weak and sickly, the use of Speer's Port Grape Wine will restore their health and strength. Physicians, clergymen and temperance advocates should encourage the use of the Port Grape Wine, and thus aid the cause of temperance and moderation. We especially recommend it to families for its purity, exquisite flavor and healthy properties. Medical men certify to its valuable medicinal powers. We understand that Mr. Speer has been for years engaged in preparing and perfecting it, and that it requires a four-year's process before it is fit for market.—N. Y. Baptist.

Our druggists have procured some direct from the vineyard. It is excellent for females to use. dec 19-1w.

GETTING MARRIED.—Essays for Young Men, on Social Evils, and the propriety or impropriety of getting Married, with sanitary help for those who feel unqualified for matrimonial happiness. Sent free, in sealed envelopes. Address HOWARD ASSOCIATION, Box P, Philadelphia, Pa. sep 19-3m

DRY GOODS.

WILLIAM MURRAY, MERCHANT TAILOR, NO. 7 NORTH FAIRFAX STREET, HAS ON HAND A LARGE ASSORTMENT OF FALL AND WINTER ASSORTMENT OF CLOTHES, CASSIMERES, AND VESTINGS, and examines his stock. sep 21-4f

J. L. GRIGG, MERCHANT TAILOR, 66 King street, Has opened a full line of first class goods for Fall and Winter wear, consisting of FRENCH AND ENGLISH CLOTHS, CASSIMERES AND VESTINGS, imported expressly for the trade, to which he invites attention. aug 20-eo2m

NOTICE.—The unexamined satisfaction that NATTAN'S CRYSTAL DISCOVERY has given in this city, as evidenced by the repeated orders of some of the first Druggists, induce us to direct special and particular attention to the great fact that by its use you gain all the advantages claimed for the many poisonous compounds in use, to wit: the restoration of the color and growth of the hair and the speedy removal of dandruff, without the least possible injury—as Crystal Discovery is positively warranted to contain no poisonous substance, neither Lead, Sulphur or Silver.

Its perfect cleanliness is a reason not lightly to be overlooked; it will neither stain the skin or clothes—in one sentence, it is exactly what has been wanted for a long while, a Restorer of the Hair that may be used without the fear that you are going to have Neuralgia, Paralysis, Lead Colic and various other complaints, the result of the use of lead preparations.

As simply a Dressing for the Hair, it has also been found to be unexcelled.

Letters in our possession might be published by the score, all recommending it in the highest terms, of which we promise to give you some in future.

By all means try it, as we are satisfied it will give you entire satisfaction. Price \$1 per bottle. For sale by druggists generally.

ARTHUR NATTAN, Inventor and Proprietor, Washington, D. C.

To whom address all orders. For sale by WARFIELD & HALL, in Alexandria. nov 14-4f

NOTICE OF A CHANGE OF SCHEDULE FOR 1871.—At the commencement of the Spring business, a change will be made in the schedule of the steamer COLUMBIA. She will start from Washington on TUESDAY NIGHT from here, and arrive at Baltimore on Thursday morning in ample time for making connection with early morning trains and steamer.

dec 19-3f B. WHEAT, Agent.

NOTICE TO GAS CONSUMERS.—Bills for the quarter ending December 15th are now ready for delivery. On all bills paid on or before the first of January, 1871, a discount of ten per cent will be allowed. If not paid by the 10th of January, the full of gas will be stopped.

J. ROXBURY, Superintendent. dec 17-7f

J. R. SMOOT, LIVE STOCK BROKER, West End, Respectfully solicits consignments of Cattle, Cows and Calves, Hogs and Sheep. Address, J. R. SMOOT, P. O. box 107, Alexandria, Va. nov 11

WINDOW GLASS.—A full supply of FRENCH WINDOW GLASS, of all sizes, from 3x3 to 10x12, both single and double thickness, just received. Also, PUTTY in tins and bladders, for sale low. E. J. MILLER, sep 27-eo3m 65 King street.

NOTHING MORE SERVICEABLE, and for a cheap Christmas present more beautiful, than these pretty LACE TRIMMED LINEN COLLARS and CUFFS that we have found at Mrs. C. L. SIMPSON'S. dec 17

MORE OF THOSE CHEAP Imitation ASTORIAN CLOAKS received this morning, trimmed with Fringe and Pleni. Call and see them at dec 17 WITMER & SLAYMAKERS.

MACHINISTS.

W. S. MOORE, MACHINIST AND BLACKSMITH, At No. 65 Union street, Alexandria, Va.

Where he is prepared to furnish all kinds of MACHINERY, WROUGHT and CAST IRON FENCING, &c. Repairing done with dispatch, and at prices that were charged previous to the war. ja 20

G. W. JAMIESON. C. H. COLLINS.

JAMIESON & COLLINS, IRON AND BRASS FOUNDERS,

COR. OF ROYAL & WILKES STS., ALEXANDRIA, VA.

Building Material, Mill Work and Castings of every description made at short notice.

Cash paid for old Iron and Brass. sep 6-4f

GAS AND STEAM FITTING, WM. COGAN, No. 15 North Royal street.

Has constantly on hand a large and complete assortment of CHANDELIERS, BRACKETS, PENDANTS, STATIONARY AND PORTABLE DROP LIGHTS IN VARIETY; PORCELAINS, PHOTOGRAPH, MICA AND OTHER SLIDES; CUT, GROUND AND PLAIN GLASS; ALSO, STEAM PIPE, GAGES, COCKS, VALVES, and everything in the Steam Fitting Line. Public Buildings and Dwellings furnished and fitted up with Gas in the most substantial and elegant manner. Steam Work for Factories, Mills, &c., promptly and faithfully executed; all at prices which will give satisfaction. my 8-4f

PHILIP PARK, PRACTICAL PLUMBER, No. 12 South Fairfax street.

The oldest and best established Plumbing establishment in the city. All work done with dispatch, and in the most durable and workmanlike manner. Satisfaction guaranteed. JOBBING done at short notice, and by himself, or the most experienced workmen. dec 1

CITIZENS' NATIONAL BANK.—This Bank will be open on MONDAY, the 28th instant, for the transaction of a regular Banking business, such as receiving deposits, discounting bills and notes, selling exchange, United States bonds, &c. Banking hours from 9 a. m. to 3 p. m. We solicit the patronage of the public. ROBERT H. MILLER, President. Wm. H. LAMBERT, Cashier. D. E. COYORS.

R. H. MILLER, J. B. DAINGERFIELD, J. H. LAMBERT, J. B. SMOOT, B. WHEAT. nov 26-1m

DISSOLUTION OF CO-PARTNERSHIP.—The firm hitherto existing under the name of A. H. NOTT & CO. was, by mutual consent, dissolved on the first day of May, 1870. A. H. NOTT having purchased the entire interest, will continue the business at the old stand, No. 69 King street, Alexandria, Va. A. H. NOTT.

BECK & CO. have interest in the late firm of A. H. Nott & Co., I solicit my friends to extend to them their patronage. dec 15

HAVING BEEN APPOINTED